Bank are given due consideration.

(c) The private power policy, *inter alia*, provides for a return on investment subject to achievement of certain performance standards. Government has also streamlined procedures, modalities for supply and transportation of fuel and helped standardise sale and purchase of power.

Non-availability of daily flights from Amritsar

1445. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no daily flight from Amritsar to different destinations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when, Amritsar will become international airport and daily flights will be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Amritsar is connected to Delhi and Srinagar by Indian Airlines flights, three times a week; in addition, for the convenience of International Passengers, as a part of Hub and Spoke Operations of Air India, two flights a week connect Amritsar to various international destinations via Delhi. Due to crew constraints, Indian Airlines is not in a position to operate daily service to Amritsar and there is no proposal to declare Amritsar as an International Airport, at present.

New Schemes for Weavers in Punjab

1446. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any new schemes and programmes for weavers in Punjab for the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what effective measures government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) The Schemes being implemented by Government of India for the handloom sector are generally not state specific. All State Governments and Union Territories are eligible for assistance under these Scheme. The Weavers of Punjab can avail assistance under all the ongoing Schemes in handloom sector. Central assistance is released on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments.

Delay in flights of Indian Airlines

1447. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines flights are mostly delayed nowadays and the passengers are preferring private airlines; and

(b) if so, which are the flights delayed in the months of October, November and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. 1881 flights were delayed or cancelled out of a total 6543 flights during October, 1995 due to adverse weather, airport restrictions, technical snags etc. Statistics for the month of November, 1995 is being compiled.

Foreign Exchange earned by Air India

1448. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) how much foreign exchange went out of the country through Foreign Airlines during the period 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995 airline-wise; and

(b) how much foreign exchange was earned by Air India during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The information may kindly be seen in the enclosed statement (*See* below)

(b) The foreign exchange earned by Air India during 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995 is Rs. 604.93 crores.